Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 30 wherein the disorder is cancer.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the disorder is an at least partially irradiation and/or medicament-resistant cancer.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the disorder is at least partially resistant against apoptosis-inducing therapy.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the disorder is at least partially resistant against administration of cytostatic and/or cytotoxic medicaments, particularly apoptosis-inducing medicaments.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the inhibitor of a receptor tyrosine kinase ligand is co-applied with a further therapeutic procedure and/or medicament.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim 6 wherein the medicament is co-applied with an irradiation therapy.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim 6 wherein the medicament is co-applied with a further anti-cancer medicament, particularly with a chemotherapeutic agent or with an anti-tumour antibody.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim 8 wherein the further anti-cancer medicament is selected from doxorubicin, a taxane, cis/trans-platin or derivatives thereof, 5-fluorouracil, mitomycin D, paclitaxel, etoposide, cyclophosphoamide, docetaxel or other apoptosis-inducing drugs or proteins, in particular antibodies .

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 12~~ method of claim 33, wherein the stress is an oxidative and/or osmotic stress.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 12~~ method of claim 33, wherein the stress is a p38-mediated stress.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 12~~ method of claim 33, wherein the disorder is cancer.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the receptor tyrosine kinase is selected from EGFR and other members of the EGFR family.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30, wherein the receptor is EGFR.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 30 wherein the receptor tyrosine kinase ligand is a ligand binding to the extracellular domain of said receptor tyrosine kinase.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the receptor tyrosine kinase ligand is selected from HB-EGF, EGF, amphiregulin, betacellulin, epiregulin, TGF-α, neuregulin or heregulin.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim 19 wherein the receptor tyrosine kinase ligand is HB-EGF.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the inhibitor is an inhibitor of a metalloprotease capable of cleaving the receptor tyrosine kinase ligand or an inhibitor of regulatory steps upstream of the metalloprotease.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the inhibitor is a direct inhibitor of the receptor tyrosine kinase ligand.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the inhibitor acts on the nucleic acid level.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim 23 wherein the inhibitor is a specific transcription inhibitor, particularly selected from anti-sense molecules, ribozymes or RNAi molecules.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim 24 wherein the inhibitor is a gene inactivator.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of claim 1~~ method of claim 30 wherein the inhibitor acts on the protein level.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim 26 wherein the inhibitor is a specific protein inhibitor, particularly selected from antibodies or antibody fragments and/or from roteinaceous or low-molecular weight inhibitors.

28. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition or kit comprising as active ingredients

(a) an inhibitor of a receptor tyrosine kinase ligand which is an inhibitor of a metalloprotease capable of cleaving the receptor tyrosine kinase ligand or an inhibitor of regulatory steps upstream of the metalloprotease, and

(b) a further medicament for the treatment of hyperproliferative disorders.

29. (Original) The composition or kit of claim 28 which additionally comprises pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents and/or adjuvants.

30. (Original) A method of preventing or treating an at least partially therapy-resistant hyperproliferative disorder comprising administrating an inhbitor of a receptor tyrosine kinase ligand to a subject in need thereof.

31. (New) A method for increasing the efficacy of therapies against hyperproliferative disorders in a patient in need of such increase, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor of a receptor tyrosine kinase ligand.

32. (New) A method for increasing the sensitivity of hyperproliferative disorders against irradiation and/or medicament treatment in a patient in need of such increased sensitivity, comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor of a receptor tyrosine kinase ligand.

33. (New) A method of preventing or treating a hyperproliferative disorder which is caused by or associated with stress-induced activation of a receptor tyrosine kinase in a patient in need of such prevention or treatment, comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor of a receptor tyrosine kinase ligand.